

December 1997
Project Manager: Chuck Mason

Tillamook Bay and Estuary, Tillamook, Oregon Fact Sheet

AUTHORITY: General Investigation
SPONSOR: Tillamook County Flood Control Group
STUDY PHASE: Reconnaissance

LOCATION: The project is located at Tillamook County, Oregon, where five major rivers enter into the bay and estuary, including the Miami, Kilchis, Wilson, Trask, and Tillamook Rivers. Tillamook Bay is on the Oregon Coast, about 50 miles south of the Columbia River mouth and 60 miles west of Portland.

PROBLEMS AND OPPORTUNITIES: Tillamook County has recently experienced a number flood events, which appear to occur on a more frequent basis and with lower intensity rainfall. Damages as a result of the major flood of February 1996 are estimated at over \$10 million. However, flooding was also recorded from a minor rainfall in late October 1997. Sedimentation from upstream landslides may be filling-in the channels and bay to reduce the previous water carrying capacity of the water courses. In addition to the flooding problems, the environmental quality of the bay and estuary is a current concern being studied by several groups. The National Estuary Program (NEP) identified three major concerns, including: pathogen contamination, sedimentation, and salmon habitat degradation. The possibility exists to implement alternatives that can both reduce flooding and enhance the environmental quality of the region.

ALTERNATIVE PLANS: No Specific alternatives have been identified to date.

STATUS: The study is scheduled to begin in mid-January 1998.

SCHEDULE:

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| Initiate Reconnaissance Phase | January 1998 |
| Complete Section 905b Analysis | April 1998 |
| Initiate PSP/FCSA | May 1998 |
| Complete Reconnaissance Phase | January 1999 |

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT(S): The study is within Oregon's 5th Congressional District, represented by Darlene Hooley.